

(e) and (f). The Tea Board has already been operating various developmental schemes for increasing tea production. These schemes provide for long term loan, subsidy and grants-in-aid for the purpose of new planting, replanting, rejuvenation and infilling, creation of irrigation facilities, procurement of processing machineries, etc.

Support Price to cotton Growers

4899. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN
YADAV:
SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the average support prices paid by the Cotton Corporation of India of the various varieties of cotton during 1990-91 and 1991-92 and prices fixed for 1992-93 season;

(b) whether the support prices of cotton varies from State to State; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India procures cotton at the minimum support prices fixed by Government when the market prices of *kapas* fall below the MSP fixed by Government. Since the market prices of *kapas* were ruling above the support prices during 1990-91 and 1991-92 cotton seasons the CCI did not effect any purchases under price support operations in those years. Government has not yet fixed the MSP for cotton for 1992-93 cotton season.

(b) and (c). The support price of cotton varies from variety to variety, depending upon the spinnability of the variety.

[English]

Farming of Remunerative Products by Tobacco Growers

4901. SHRI G. M. C. BALAYOG: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of worldwide campaign to discourage cigarette smoking, the Government propose to encourage farming of other remunerative products to help farmers growing tobacco; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, sir.

(b). In spite of anti-smoking campaigns, the demand for tobacco is continuing and is likely to continue for some more years.

[Translation]

Production of Silk

4902. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO;
SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have any plan to provide better quality of silk eggs to the farmers of Karnataka to boost the production of silk; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). In Order to provide quality silkworm eggs to the farmers of Karnataka, the Central Silk Board has taken up the following programmes in the State:-